



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of

ROGER KUIE, et al.

Serial No.: 09/516,949

Filed: March 1, 2000

FOR: ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF
BENEFITS

Group Art Unit: unknown

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(d) and 1.98**

#4
2/27/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: Examiner

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit herewith references of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to patentability of the invention disclosed and claimed in the above-cited application and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Beverly Erdman

(Typed Name)

Beverly Erdman

(Signature)

JANUARY 8, 2002

(Date of Signature)

Each reference of this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in the International Search Report from the Patent Cooperation Treaty not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement such that no fee is required. Applicants are submitting herewith copies of the references which are set forth on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

French Patent Application No. FR 2 605 770 is a system of restoring credit to remove the tasks of handling and transporting paper coupons. Specifically, the application discloses that coupons are bought by companies and distributed to employees to receive a meal at a restaurant. These coupons are refunded by the issuer of the coupons. However, the system is costly due to the manipulation and exchanges of the paper coupons. Figure 1 illustrates the invention and includes a transmitter (1), a company terminal (2), credit cards (3), a portable terminal (4), restaurant terminals (5), and a central station for regulating the credit (6). The invention includes a transmitter for emitting information, e.g., a unit-meal of a restaurant, which is recorded in the company terminal or directly on a credit card. Each participating restaurant has a terminal for accepting the credit cards. The information concerning the unit-meal is transmitted to the central station for payment of the credit to the restaurant.

French Patent Application No. FR 2 770 318 is system of distribution of parking rights of a card-user U having an electronic smart card 10, as shown in Figure 1. The smart card 10 is issued by a parking operator 100 and is usable in payment points H of parking managed by the aforementioned operator. According to the invention, the system includes at least one distribution site V equipped with a smart card reader 200 for receiving a smart card 10 and allocating the parking rights to the smart card 10 from the parking operator 100. The system may be used in the parking of vehicles in an urban environment.


French Patent Application No. FR 2 722 899 is a system for the automatic management of the operations of payment by means of purchase orders, in particular in public services of restoration. As shown in Figure 1, electronic cards (5) are issued to employers (2), who, in turn, issue the cards to employees (3). The electronic cards (5) are used to purchase items from various merchants (4) utilizing recording devices (6), and the purchase amount is transmitted to the issuing agency (1).

As all relevant parts of the remaining references are in the English language, no explanation of the references is provided herein.

While the references provided in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material to patentability pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 8, 2002

By: 
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Docket No.: 2322-0494



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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/516,949	
	Filing Date	March 1, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Kuite, Roger, et al	
	Group Art Unit	Unknown	
	Examiner Name	Unknown	
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Kathleen L. Connell, Regis. No. 45,344
Signature	<i>Kathleen L. Connell</i>
Date	January 8, 2002

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